

A. 355 (3)
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1944

Public Health Committee:

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. G. Hayes-Jones.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. Read.

Councillors: A.A. Bellm, C.E. Davies, P. Bryant, Rev. G.W. Elcock,
J.W. Adams, J.H. Tickner, S.H. Channon and J.H. Kaye.

Area of District:	...	...	...	5,689 acres
Population:	...	...	...	19,740
	(as estimated by the Registrar General at December 1944)			
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£205,813
	(at 1st April, 1944)			
Estimated product of Penny Rate:	...	...	...	£810

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	194	194	388
Illegitimate	10	24	34
Total:	204 (225)	218 (189)	422 (414)

(Figures in brackets are for previous year)

Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population: 20.9 (20.6)

Birth Rate - England and Wales ... 17.6 (16.5)

<u>Deaths:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	106 (114)	97 (94)	203 (208)

Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population: 10.5 (10.3)

Death Rate - England and Wales 11.6 (12.1)

Deaths of persons between	60 and 70	-	35 (men 24, women 11)
"	70 and 80	-	50 (men 28, women 22)
"	80 and 90	-	45 (men 12, women 33)
	over 90	-	7 (all women)



Deaths from Puerperal Causes	-	Nil
Deaths under one year	-	18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	-	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2)	-	2

Chief Causes of Death in 1944

Heart Disease	Males - 19, Females - 23,	Total: 42
Cancer	" - 17, " - 17,	" 34

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1944, 189 cases of Infectious Disease were notified.

<u>Diphtheria:</u> (6)	Three cases were notified. All went to hospital. One case turned out to be tonsilitis and was discharged after six days. The other two cases were a mother and child of 9. The mother was discharged after six days, the child remaining for seven weeks. No deaths.
<u>Scarlet Fever:</u> (31)	19 cases only were notified. 6 of these were nursed at home. No deaths.
<u>B. Dysentery:</u>	62 cases notified. Almost all the cases occurred among the German Prisoners of War at No. 9 Prisoner of War Camp. All precautions were taken as to disinfecting trains etc.
<u>Puerperal Pyrexia:</u>	One case, reported from hospital.
<u>Erysipelas:</u>	One case. Woman. Treated at home.
<u>Measles:</u> (148)	48 cases reported. An outbreak of measles started in December. Until then only 3 cases had been notified.
<u>Pneumonia:</u>	11 cases were notified by Medical Practitioners. 3 nursed in hospital.
<u>Chickenpox:</u>	15 cases were notified.
<u>Whooping Cough:</u>	27 cases notified.
<u>Scabies:</u> (472)	Treatment was given at a First Aid Post, during the year, to 432 persons.
<u>Tuberculosis:</u>	26 new cases were notified during the year. 18 males and 2 females. 24 Pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary. (This disease is on the increase).

Diphtheria Immunisation : The approximate estimated number of children in the district of Sunbury-on-Thames at 31st December 1944 was:-

Under 5 - 1800 Between 5 and 15 - 3270

275 children were immunised in 1944 as follows:-

Under 5 - 244 Over 5 and under 15 - 31.

Percentage of children it is considered were immunised at 31.12.44:-

Under 5 - 63% Over 5 - 69.5%

Ambulance Service: (Manned by C.D. Personnel during 1944)

During the year the ambulance was called out as follows:-

Accidents 99. Illness 224. Maternity 27.

Total calls - 350

Milage 5,608. An average of approximately 16 miles per call.

Swabs: During the year the following specimens were dealt with:

Swabs for diphtheria 19. Positive 1, negative 18.
Sputum for tuberculosis 8. Positive 1, negative 7.

Swimming Bath: Not opened during 1944.

War Time Nurseries: Two nurseries have been opened in this district during the War, both administered by the Middlesex County Council, one in Sunbury at Beechwood Avenue, opened 4.1.43. with accommodation for 40 children, and the other in Shepperton, High Street, opened 11.10.43. with accommodation for 50 children.

Water: The water supply of the area is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Almost all the dwelling houses in the district are supplied from the mains of the water companies. Each of the various companies take bacterial and chemical analyses periodically and I am satisfied with the results.

GENERAL REPORT

The general health of the district, under Wartime conditions has been remarkably good. The children especially showing a high standard of health and welfare. Improved feeding has been a material factor in maintaining this.

The chief and urgent question of the moment is housing, for which there is an ever increasing demand. The Council are doing their best to make progress but are greatly handicapped by difficulties in regard to sites and other matters.

I want to express my thanks especially to Mr. Moore and Mrs. Lukyn for the valuable help in every respect they have given me during the year.

Also to the other Officials in matters requiring joint action, and to the Council generally for their consideration and helpful action in all matters brought before them from this Department.

ALEX. URQUART.

Medical Officer of Health.

